LEGAL NOTICE – 30 DAY COMMENT PERIOD PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)

Margaret Creek Restoration and Enhancement Project

The Tongass National Forest, Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District, has prepared a preliminary environmental assessment (EA) for the Margaret Creek Restoration and Enhancement Project. This EA analyzes the effects of restoring watershed health, enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, enhancing recreation opportunities, and maintaining plant communities in the Margaret Creek project area, which includes the Margaret Creek Watershed and surrounding area connected to the Margaret road system. The responsible official for this project is the District Ranger of the Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District.

The preliminary EA and supporting information can be downloaded from the project website at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51782. The electronic project record is available upon request from the Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District office.

For additional information please contact: Jon Hyde Team Leader, Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District, 3031 Tongass Avenue Ketchikan, AK 99901, (907) 225-2148, jon.hyde@usda.gov

How to Comment:

This project is subject to a predecisional administrative review process (commonly referred to as an objection process) in accordance with 36 CFR 218 subparts A and B. If you want to be eligible to object, your comments need to be timely and specific. This means your comments must be received during any of the designated opportunities for public comment (of which this is one). Your comments should be specific to this project and directly relate to our proposed activities with supporting rationale. You also need to clearly identify yourself. When you submit comments with no identifiable name, we will need to verify your identity. If you send electronic comments, a complete name and current mailing address provide verification. We will accept and consider comments submitted anonymously, but you will not have standing to object as defined in 36 CFR 218.2.

We will accept facsimile, hand-delivered, and electronic written comments for this project for 30 calendar days following publication of this notice in the *Ketchikan Daily News*, the newspaper of record for the Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District. The publication date in the Ketchikan Daily News is your exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis.

Written comments need to include the following:

- The project title, Margaret Creek Restoration Project
- Your name
- Your current physical mailing address
- Your organization name if commenting as a representative

Please be aware that names and contact information submitted with your comments become part of the public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Submit electronic comments in plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or word (.doc) to: comments-alaska-tongass-ketchikan-mistyfiord@fs.fed.us. Please include Margaret Creek Restoration Project in the subject line. It is your responsibility to submit comments by the close of the comment period.

Submit your hardcopy written comments to: Margaret Creek Restoration Project, District Ranger Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District, 3031 Tongass Avenue, Ketchikan Alaska 99901, Fax: (907) 225-8738

Business hours for hand-delivered comments are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays. For more information, contact Jon Hyde at (907) 225-2148.

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